

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a laundry machine comprising:

supplying steam to a tub or drum having laundry introduced thereto at a temperature suitable to sterilize or sanitize the laundry;

supplying washing water to the tub or drum ~~proportional to an amount of the laundry~~;

washing the laundry while rotating the drum for a preset time period;

rinsing the laundry at least once when washing the laundry is finished; and

spinning the laundry by rotating the ~~tub or drum~~ when rinsing the laundry is finished.
2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the supplying ~~the~~ of steam ~~to sterilize or sanitize the laundry further~~ comprises supplying steam continuously for a preset time period ~~enough to soak the laundry with the steam~~.
3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the supplying of steam ~~to sterilize or sanitize the laundry~~, further comprises supplying steam for a cycle time period shorter than a cycle time period of washing the laundry.
4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the supplying ~~the~~ of steam ~~to sterilize or sanitize the laundry further~~ comprises supplying steam at a temperature that can kill various microbes in the laundry.
5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprises supplying steam to the tub or drum after the spinning ~~the~~ of laundry ~~to freshen the laundry after the final spinning is finished~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the supplying of steam after the spinning to refreshen the laundry further comprises supplying steam at a temperature that is the same as, or higher than ~~[[a]]~~ the temperature at which steam is supplied suitable to sterilize or sanitize the laundry.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the supplying of steam after the spinning to refreshen the laundry further comprises supplying steam for a preset time period enough to refresh the laundry in the tub or drum.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprises stopping operation of a steam generator before the supplying of the washing water into the tub or drum.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a laundry device comprising:
supplying washing water to a tub or drum having laundry introduced thereto ~~proportional to an amount of the laundry~~;

rotating the ~~tub or~~ drum for a preset time period during washing;

draining residual washing water while performing intermediate spinning of the ~~tub or~~ drum at a high speed for making an intermediate extraction of water when the washing is finished;

supplying steam into the tub or drum having the laundry thereto to sterilize or sanitize the laundry when the intermediate spinning is finished;

rinsing at least once when supplying the steam to sterilize the laundry is finished; and

performing a final spinning cycle when rinsing is finished.

10. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the supplying of steam to sterilize or sanitize the laundry further comprises supplying steam at a temperature that can kill various microbes in the laundry.

11. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the supplying of steam to sterilize or sanitize the laundry further comprises supplying steam for a preset time period long enough to kill various microbes.

12. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 9, further comprises supplying steam to the tub or drum to refreshen the laundry after the final spinning cycle is finished to refreshen laundry.

13. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the supplying of steam to refreshen the laundry further comprises supplying steam at a temperature higher than a temperature at which the laundry is sterilized or sanitized.

14. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the supplying of steam to refreshen the laundry further comprises supplying steam for a preset time period long enough to refreshen the laundry in the tub or drum.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a laundry device comprising:
supplying washing water to a tub or drum having laundry introduced thereto;
rotating the ~~tub or~~ drum for a preset time period during washing;

draining residual washing water while performing intermediate spinning of the ~~tub or~~ drum at a high speed for making an intermediate extraction of water when the washing is finished;

rinsing at least twice with cold and warm water, alternately when the intermediate spinning is finished; and

performing a final spinning cycle when the rinsing is finished.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the rinsing is performed in the following steps in succession:

performing a first rinsing with the cold washing water,

performing a second rinsing with the warm washing water after the first rinsing is finished, and

performing a third rinsing with the cold washing water.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising performing an intermediate spinning between the first, and second rinsing, and between the second, and third rinsing.

18. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 15, further comprises supplying steam to sterilize or sanitize the laundry before the supplying of washing water.

19. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the supplying of steam to sterilize or sanitize the laundry ~~further~~ comprises supplying steam continuously for a preset time period ~~long enough to soak the laundry in the drum.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the supplying of steam to sterilize or sanitize the laundry ~~further~~ comprises supplying steam for a preset time period shorter than a cycle time period of washing the laundry.

21. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the supplying of steam to sterilize or sanitize the laundry ~~further~~ comprises supplying steam at a temperature that can kill various microbes in the laundry.

22-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 15, further comprises supplying steam at a temperature that can kill various microbes.

28. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the supplying of steam to sterilize or sanitize the laundry ~~further~~ comprises supplying steam at a temperature that is at least 60° C.